



Classroom Expectations

Strategies and Poster



Children benefit from organized classroom environments where guidelines are clearly and simply stated. A set of positive expectations can help guide all interactions in the classroom. Expectations are general characteristics or ways you would like children and adults to behave. Rules help define exactly what the expectations mean. Behavior expectations and rules are important because children are less likely to engage in challenging behavior when they know what to do, how to do it, and what is expected.

Teaching Behavior Expectations

More often behavioral errors occur because:

- ▶ Children do not have the appropriate skills.
- ▶ Children do not know when to use the skills.
- ▶ Children have not been taught specific classroom procedures and routines.

Once you have developed classroom expectations, it is not enough to just post the words on the walls, they must be taught with consistency.

Once expectations and rules are posted with visuals that are meaningful for all children in the classroom, they must be concretely taught and systematically reinforced. Teach expectations and rules the way you would teach any other concept:

1. Define them with words children will understand.
2. Provide examples and non-examples.
3. Check for understanding.
4. Model, practice, and rehearse (create songs, rhymes, use visual supports, have puppets recite).
5. Use gestures, pictures, or graphics to frequently remind children of classroom rules and expectations.
6. Provide clear expectations for children's behavior during each classroom activity.
7. Acknowledge efforts positively and frequently.
8. Share information regarding expectations and rules with families. Provide ideas about how to apply the concepts at home and in the community.



Classroom Expectations



We Are Kind



We Are Safe



We Are Inclusive



We Are Responsible

